

Serial No.: 10/686,714
Art Unit: 2854

Docket No. 23248.00
Customer No. 37833

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheets of drawings include changes to **Figs. 5, 22, 38B, 44A, 46A and 46B**. The changes to **Figs. 5, 22, 38B, 44A, 46A and 46B** change and delete various reference numerals to ensure compliance with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5).

Attachments: Replacement Sheets for **Figs. 5, 22, 38B, 44A, 46A and 46B**
 Annotated Sheet Showing Changes to **Figs. 5, 22, 38B, 44A,**
46A and 46B

REMARKS

Upon entry of the above amendments, Claims 4, 28, 31 and 32 have been amended. Claims 1-21 and 23-34 remain pending in the present application. Claims 1 and 18 are independent claims.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the specification, claims and drawings are fully supported by the original disclosure, and introduce no new matter therewith. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance in view of the foregoing amendments and the following remarks.

Entry of this Amendment is proper under 37 C.F.R. § 116 because the amendments: (a) place the application in condition for allowance for the reasons discussed herein; (b) do not raise any new issues that would require further consideration and/or search as the amendments and arguments presented merely amplify issues previously discussed throughout prosecution; and (c) place the application in better form for an appeal, should an appeal be necessary. The amendments are necessary and were not earlier presented as they are in response to new grounds of rejection entered in the Final Rejection. Applicant respectfully requests entry of the Amendment.

The disclosure is objected to because of informalities. In particular the Examiner noted spelling and/or grammatical errors on pages 1, 2, 19, 34 and 35. The Examiner also noted reference numeral errors on pages 24, 26 and 27. **Figs. 5, 22, 38B, 44A, 46A and 46B** are objected to for textual errors, showing incorrect reference numerals and/or for showing reference numerals not described in the specification.

Applicant has amended the specification and **Figs. 5, 22, 38B, 44A, 46A and 46B** to correct the spelling and/or grammatical errors on pages 1, 2, 19, 34 and 35, the reference numeral errors on pages 24, 26 and 27, and the textual errors and/or incorrect reference numerals noted by the Examiner in **Figs. 5, 22, 38B, 44A, 46A and 46B** to ensure compliance with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5).

Applicant respectfully submits that the drawing changes and the amendments to the specification overcome these objections, are fully supported by the original disclosure, and introduce no new matter therewith.

The Examiner noted the use of the trademark VELCRO on page 32 of the specification, and indicated that all letters of the trademark should be capitalized and should be accompanied by the generic terminology. Applicant has amended the paragraph in page 32 that contains the trademark VELCRO by capitalizing the letters of the trademark VELCRO and by accompanying the trademark with the generic terminology "hook and loop fasteners".

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. In particular, the Examiner noted that the specification did not support various limitations set forth in Claims 12, 13, 15-17, 29, 30 and 32-34. Applicant has inserted a paragraph before line 3 of page 28 that supports the various limitations set forth in Claims 12, 13, 15-17, 29, 30 and 32-34. With respect to Claims 16 and 17, and 33 and 34, Applicant respectfully submits that pre-cut pieces of the screen/mesh can be edge sealed and can have a strip of material applied to the edge

sealed edges. Edge sealing can be accomplished by applying heat, and the claimed strip of material can be in the form of paste and be pasted on the edges, in the form of an adhesive strip that is attached thereto, etc.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the specification support the various limitations set forth in Claims 12, 13, 15-17, 29, 30 and 32-34, overcome this objection, are fully supported by the original disclosure, and introduce no new matter therewith.

Claims 4, 28 and 32 are objected to because of informalities. In particular, the Examiner noted that "an end" in claim 4, line 4 is a double recitation of the same in claim 1, line 3, the "ink/fluid barriers" in claim 28 lacks proper antecedent basis, and --piece-- or --pieces-- should be inserted after "screen/mesh" in claim 32, line 2. Applicant has amended Claim 4 to change the phrase "an end" to --one end--, has amended Claim 28 to depend from Claim 27, and has amended Claim 32 by inserting the word --piece-- after screen/mesh.

Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to Claims 4, 28 and 32 overcome these objections, are fully supported by the original disclosure, and introduce no new matter therewith.

Claims 14, 15, 31 and 32 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as allegedly being indefinite. In particular, the Examiner indicated that the recitations of the individual screen/mesh pieces in Claims 14 and 31 appear to contradict the recitation in

parent Claims 12 and 29 that recite that the screen/mesh is provided on a roll. Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

Applicant has amended Claim 31 to depend from Claim 18 and to recite that Claim 31 is in combination with a screen/mesh that "is configured as a separate individual screen/mesh piece with a protective material for shipping and storage". Applicant respectfully submits that amended Claim 31 fully complies with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant also respectfully submits that the recitations set forth in Claim 14 do not contradict the recitations set forth in parent Claim 12. Claim 12 recites "providing the screen/mesh as one or more screens/meshes on a roll". Claim 14 merely recites "separating individual screen/mesh pieces from the one or more screens/meshes for shipping and storage". Applicant respectfully submits that the separating step of Claim 14 does not contradict the providing step set forth in Claim 12, and respectfully submits that Claim 14 fully complies with 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of Claims 14, 15, 31 and 32 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Applicant respectfully submits that the proposed amendments made herein properly respond to the outstanding Final Rejection and represent a *bona fide* effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application. Care has been exercised to insure that no new matter has been introduced and that no new issues have been raised that would require further consideration or search. It is felt that no inordinate amount of

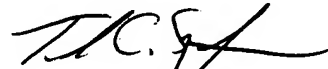
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time will be required on the part of the Examiner to review and consider this amendment. In the event that the application is not allowed, it is requested that this amendment be entered for purposes of appeal.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance. If such is not the case, the Examiner is requested to kindly contact the undersigned in an effort to satisfactorily conclude the prosecution of this application.

Respectfully submitted,



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